



PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/759,656	
	Filing Date	January 14, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Hauser et al.	
	Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	8	Attorney Docket Number	36400.18US10

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Forms 1449A/PTO, 1449B/PTO and Return Postcard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Thomas C. McDonough; (Reg. No. 33,734); Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP
Signature	<i>Thomas C. McDonough</i>
Date	Mar 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name	<i>Naren Ablik</i>		
Signature	<i>Naren Ablik</i>	Date	3-30-04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Hauser et al.)	
)	
Serial No.:	10/759,656)	Examiner: unassigned
)	
Filed:	January 14, 2004)	Group Art Unit: unassigned
)	
Title:	Hydrostatic Transmission)	Docket No.: 36400.18US10

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the items of information listed on the enclosed Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the Application. Therefore, no fee is required.

In accordance with the office's recent notice (OG Notices: 05 August 2003) waiving the requirement of filing U.S. patent references, the cited U.S. Patents are not enclosed. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of other art listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08b, which was previously cited by or submitted to the Office with the previously filed application, of which the current application is a continuation of, is not enclosed. The previously filed applications upon which the current application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 are:

U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/376,889 filed on February 28, 2003; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/271,484 filed on October 16, 2002 and now Patent No. 6,637,293; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/854,989 filed on April 30, 2001 and now Patent No. 6,487,935; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application



Serial No. 09/354,963 filed on July 16, 1999 and now Patent No. 6,253,637; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/196,182 filed on 11/20/1998 and now Patent No. 6,122,996; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/773,994 filed on February 1, 2001 and now Patent No. 6,318,080; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/196,183 filed on November 20, 1998 and now Patent No. 6,152,247.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104, no representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

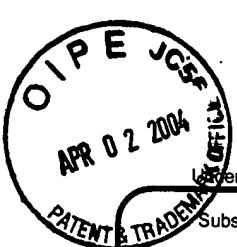
Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 30, 2004

By: Thomas C. McDonough
Thomas C. McDonough
Registration No. 33,734
NEAL, GERBER & EISENBERG LLP
2 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2200
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 269-5282

Certificate of Mailing: The undersigned hereby certifies that this document and its enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 30 day of March, 2004.

By: [Signature]
Name:



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/759,656
Filing Date	January 6, 2004
First Named Inventor	Raymond Hauser
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	36400.18US10

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,223,531	05-01-2001	Hauser et al	
		US- 6,185,936	01-02-2001	Hauser et al	
		US- 6,122,996	01-09-2000	Hauser et al	
		US- 5,950,500	01-09-1999	Okada et al	
		US- 5,887,484	03-30-1999	Abend et al	
		US- 5,873,287	02-23-1999	Kawada	
		US- 5,836,159	01-11-1998	Shimizu et al	
		US- 5,794,443	01-08-1998	Shimizu et al	
		US- 5,771,758	01-06-1998	Hauser	
		US- 5,588,294	01-12-1996	Sakakura et al	
		US- 5,555,727	01-09-1996	Hauser et al	
		US- 5,546,752	01-08-1996	Horton et al	
		US- 5,440,951	01-08-1995	Okada et al	
		US- 5,373,697	01-12-1994	Jolliff et al	
		US- 5,339,631	01-08-1994	Ohashi	
		US- 5,333,451	01-08-1994	Sakikawa et al	
		US- 5,314,387	01-05-1994	Hauser et al	
		US- 5,311,740	01-05-1994	Shiba et al	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/759,656
Filing Date	January 16, 2004
First Named Inventor	Raymond Hauser
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	36400.18US10

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,289,738	01-03-1994	Szulczewski	
		US- 5,201,692	01-04-1993	Johnson et al	
		US- 5,182,966	02-1993	von Kaler et al	
		US- 5,163,293	11-1992	Azuma et al	
		US- 5,146,748	09-1992	Okada	
		US- 5,136,845	08-1992	Woodley	
		US- 5,094,077	03-1992	Okada	
		US- 5,074,195	12-1991	Ohashi et al	
		US- 5,042,252	08-1991	Havens et al	
		US- 5,010,733	04-1991	Johnson	
		US- 4,986,073	01-1991	Okada et al	
		US- 4,932,209	06-1990	Okada et al	
		US- 4,914,907	04-1990	Okada	
		US- 4,905,472	03-1990	Okada	
		US- 4,899,541	02-1990	Okada et al	
		US- 4,870,820	10-1989	Nemoto	
		US- 4,856,368	08-1989	Fujisaki et al	
		US- 4,167,855	08/1979	Knapp	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁸ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 3**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/759,656
Filing Date	January 16, 2004
First Named Inventor	Raymond Hauser
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	36400-18US10

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,360,933	01-1968	Swanson et al	
		US- 6,231,466	05-15-2001	Thoma et al	
		US- 4,893,524	01-16-1990	Kobe et al	
		US- 5,542,307	08-06-1996	Hasegawa et al	
		US- 6,098,740	08-08-2000	Abend et al	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08b (08-03)

Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/759,656		
		Filing Date	January 14, 2004		
		First Named Inventor	Ramond Hauser		
		Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned		
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	36400.18US10

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Photograph dated '96 3 4 of Model 310-3000 integrated hydrostatic transaxle	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.